

July 25, 1967

Mr. Keith Fuller
Assistant General Manager
Associated Press
50 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10020

Dear Mr. Fuller:

I know, of course, that you are a very busy man. Even were I a chicken farmer, in the immortal words of praise AP heaped so lavishly upon me, I would know how really enormously busy you are. Why, just conceiving and executing that remarkable series of articles (is that what you call them? If I use the wrong word, please let me know) by Moody and Gavzer must have exhausted you. Were I in your place, it would have ruined me, forever. I would not have survived it. But, then, I am not the AP, am I?

Even a chicken farmer knows that when a great and respected man such as the Assistant General Manager of the just as great and just as respected Associated Press does not answer the accusations of plagiarism, lying, distorting and misrepresenting, it is not because he is afraid, or that right is not on his side. It is merely that he is just too busy. When it is his function, in addition to helping the General Manager as Assistant General Manager must, not only to conceive and execute but also to distribute and publicize such monumental pieces (is it okay if I call them "pieces" as long as I do not say pieces of what?) as those by Moody and Gavzer, he certainly must be an inordinately busy man. I beg you even work more than 40 hours a week!

Because your mind is so occupied with these matters of state, a new responsibility of journalism since my humble apprenticeship, you have, I recognize, a burden I, for one, could not carry.

Therefore, in an effort to help you that will, of necessity, be intermittent, for I work a few more than 40 hours a week and a few more than five days and still cannot accomplish what I set as each week's production target, I have decided upon a simplified method of informing you of the supreme in accuracy, integrity, honor, impartiality, responsible journalism and quintessential analysis achieved by these gentlemen working under you. Because, without doubt, especially after this yeoman service, they may be looking forward to advancement, as might not even an Assistant General Manager? I think it is their due - and yours.

Occupied as is your mind with the multifarious (no, not "nefarious", "multifarious") responsibilities of the Assistant General Manager of the Associated Press, I will keep it simple, to a single subject, and thus seek not to tax you.

It is three weeks since I wrote you, without response. Perhaps I can manage one every three weeks, again, only if this will not burden you, for that, as you know, I would not want to do.

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There are two words with which in this first instalment we are concerned, "here" and "behind". I know these words and their meanings are well within your comprehension, despite these aforesaid multifarious activities. If I try a little harder - and I promise I shall - perhaps in the next I can reduce it to a single word. There is, please accept my assurances, but a single idea here, in my objective as in that of the AP.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

P.S. I have been waiting, with bated breath, for the appearance of what Gavzer found in the National Archives. I know what he should have found, for I had earlier studied some of those files he did have. I also examined a file he had that I had not seen earlier (this did not disturb him, for he took well over two hours for lunch that day) and found in it what I would think would excite a newsman looking only for impartial fact. I imagine the members of the AP, who paid the bill, might be wondering what they got for all that money, for there is none of it in what you have published. I, on the other hand, am anxiously looking forward to your coming great revelations, from the files.